registered SSI units from scheduled Commerical Banks/National Small Industries Corporation for induction of approved proven technologies in the specified products/ sub-sectors. Small Industries Development Bank of India is the nodal agency for the operation of the Scheme. A Governing and Technology Approval Board has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Ministry of SSI and ARI to monitor the implementation of the scheme and to identify the latest technologies. The scheme would facilitate the small scale industries in improving the quality of products and enable them to become globally competitive.

Child Work Force

*352. SHRI CM. IBRAHIM: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether country has the largest work force of children in the world;

(b) if so, the details of the child work force comprising children below 10 years, between 10 to 14 years and between 14 to 18 years;

(c) the State-wise details of the children involved in begging as sex- workers, pick-pocketing, smuggling etc. and engaged in hazardous industries enumerated under the Constitution and the Law;

(d) the estimated number of the bonded child workers; and

(e) those enunciated from bondage and hazardous jobs during 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and the current year?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYA NARAYAN JATIYA): (a) to (c) According to the 1991 census data, the number of working children in the country is 11.28 million. According to some estimates, considering the country's population India may have the largest number of child labour in the world. The Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act defines child "as person who has not completed his fourteenth year of age". The census figures relate to child workers in the age group 5—14 years. Age-wise details are not maintained. State wise details are given in the Statement *(See* below). Data on children involved in begging as sex-workers, pick-pocketing, smuggling etc. and hazardous industries are not maintained. »

(d) and (e) The Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976 does not make any difference between child bondage and adult. The Act also does not make any difference of bonded labour on the basis of sex, case, creed etc. As such separate data on the number of child bonded is not reported by the State Governments. During the year 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 as many as 8195 and 5256 bonded labourers have been released and rehabilitated respectively. In the current financial year (2000-2001) up to 30th June 2001, as many as 3844 bonded labourers have been released and rehabilitated. The above figure includes all categoreis of bonded labours.

Statement

State-wise *Distribution of Working Children According to 1971, 1981 and 1991 Census*

		1971	1981	1991
	Name of the State/UT	Workers	Workers	Workers
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1,627,492	1,951,312	1,661,940
2.	Assam	239,349*	**	327,598
3.	Bihar	1,059,359	1,101.764	942,245
4.	Gujarat	518,061	616,913	523,585
5.	Haryana	137,826	194.189	109,691
6.	Himachal Pradesh	71,384	99.624	56,438
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	70,489	258.437	**
8.	Karnataka	808.719	131.530	976,247
9.	Kerala	111,801	92.854	34.800
10.	Madhya Pradesh	1.112,319	1,698,597	1.352,563
11.	Maharashtra	988,357	1.557,756	1.068.418
12.	Manipur	16,380	20,217	16,493
13.	Meghalaya	30,440	44,916	34.633
14.	Nagaland	13,726	16,235	16.476
IS.	Orissa	492,477	702,293	452.394
16.	Punjab	232,774	216,939	142,868
17.	Rajasthan	587,389	819,605	774.199
18.	Siklcim	15.661	8,561	5,598
19.	Tamilnadu	713,305	975,055	578,889
20.	Tripura	17,490	24,204	16.478
21.	Uttar Pradesh	1,326,726	1,434,675	1.410,086
22.	West Bengal	511,443	605,263	711,691
23.	Andaman & Nikobar Island	572	1,309	1,265
24.	Arunachal Pradesh	17.925	17,950	12,395
25.	Chandigarh	1.086	1,986	1,870
26.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	3.102	3,615	4,416
27.	Delhi	17,120	25,717	27,351
28.	Daman and Diu	7.391	9.378	941
29.	Goa			4,656
30.	Lakshadweep	97	56	34
31.	Mizoram	***	6,314	16,411
32.	Pondicherry	3,725	3,606	2,680
	TOTAL:	10,753,985	13,640,870	11,285,349

* Includes figures of Mi zo district also which then formed part of Assam
** Census could not be conducted.
*** Census figures 1971 in respect of Mizoram included under Assam
NB: Figures for 1991 relates to workers of age group 5— 14 years.